



August 31, 2020

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson St., Second Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board members,

I am writing in support of the newly proposed Sarah Bush Lincoln Bonutti Clinic (Effingham Medical Office Building #20-030).

I am Greg Taylor and oversee the management of all our medical practices. In all, Sarah Bush Lincoln employees 180 physicians and advanced practice providers throughout our 10-county service area. We were among the first hospitals in the region to employ medical staff and its proven to be a good strategy for us. We have been successful because we have an open dialogue with our medical staff, listen to their concerns, purchase technologically advanced equipment so they can provide the best care, and we are involved in the communities in which we have established services.

When we announced this \$35 million replacement medical office building in early August, the community embraced the project. Through social media comments, the story was shared 148 times. When HSHS announced it had filed for a public hearing to object to the project, the news was shared another 54 times. Lastly, the Effingham Daily News wrote an editorial last week supporting the project. Each time this project has been in the news, the community's comments have been overwhelmingly positive and supportive of the new Sarah Bush Lincoln Bonutti Clinic. I have attached copies of the stories and associated social media comments.

I was shocked and surprised to learn HSHS St. Anthony was opposing the project through a public hearing and soliciting community support to oppose it as well. This beautiful building welcoming travelers, guests and residents on its main northern entrance is nothing more than a doctor's office building. The architectural plans are clear. The SBL Bonutti Clinic is busting at the seams. We are consolidating some of our other established medical practices in Effingham in this proposed building, which accounts for the larger building. If we have learned anything through this pandemic, we have learned the value of social distancing. We incorporated separate reception areas for the various medical practices and added space for social distancing and to enhance patient confidentiality.

Please accept this letter as an indication of my full support of Effingham Medical Office Building #20-030.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Taylor".

Greg Taylor  
VP, Practice Management, Sarah Bush Lincoln



Comments from 979 XFM post that appeared on 8/24/20



**Sarah Dhom**

As cramped for space as they already are in their current building, I would think 2.25 times the size in a new building would definitely make sense.

Like · Reply · 3d



**Deana Cushman-Finks**

But it's okay that they built a Heart Center just down from SBLHS?! Ever heard of two supermarkets being in the same town. It's called options. We should have the right to choose where we want to receive healthcare.

Like · Reply · 3d



**Paul Hecht**

Last time I checked, its a free market, so any business can come in and provide a service. Multiple hotels, restaurants, car dealerships, etc. Why not have the ability to choose medical care.

Like · Reply · 3d





Top Fan

**Amber Dawn**

I actually moved my family's services into the SBL facilities years ago and I have loved the care each of us receive through them we actually don't even have to travel to see them anymore since we can in Effingham now.

Like · Reply · 3d



**Theresa J Graves**

SBL offers services that HSHS refuses to provide.

Like · Reply · 3d



**Christine Duncan**

Isn't SBL just putting all their services that are already in Effingham under one roof? Hmmm so what is wrong with that? Better for patients

Like · Reply · 3d



Top Fan

**Kellen Reece**

I mean who likes options...

Like · Reply · 3d



**Ron Lading**

HSHS built a new clinic next to SBL in Mattoon but now are crying foul when the situation is reversed. I don't think they have a leg to stand on. It appears that St A has only concentrated on buying up adjacent properties for the past five years and building new buildings instead of concentrating on the best patient care that they could provide.

Like · Reply · 3d · Edited



**Jamie Hillis**

I love SBL! That's why we go to the SBL walk in here in effingham now!

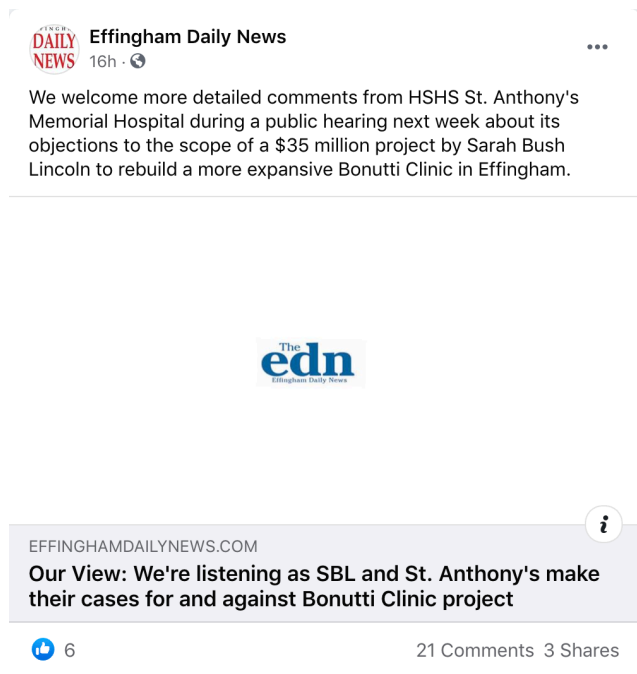
Like · Reply · 3d



**Sarah Dhom**

As cramped for space as they already are in their current building, I would think 2.25 times the size in a new building would definitely make sense.

Like · Reply · 3d



### Comments from the Effingham Daily News Post on 8/27/20



Top Fan

**Matt Warner**

The public wins when there are duplicate medical services in a community.

Many individuals' insurance only allows them to see certain doctors affiliated with certain hospitals (AKA in network). If they have no one in network, they incur large medical... **See More**

Like · Reply · 14h



**Gary Davis**

**Matt Warner** , right up until the bigger dog takes all the business and shuts the other down and then monopolizes the community once again. Something happened then Bonutti left its association with HSHS and joined SBL. Now, it's looking like they are jo... **See More**

Like · Reply · 11h



**Deb Thorne Haarmann**

**Gary Davis** HSHS had their chance to buy the Bonutti Clinic and didn't do it, so SBL did. There's no "joining forces" going on.

Like · Reply · 10h





**Cyndi Turner**

SBL should be allowed to continue with their project

Like · Reply · 15h



**Beth Karnes**

It's called competition. Saying SBL shouldn't be in town is like saying we should only have one bank or one fast food restaurant.

Like · Reply · 15h



**Kevin Bornreger**

Greg Sapp interviewed Jerry Esker and he made it abundantly clear that the only service being added that isn't currently already in any SBLHS Effingham locations is CT. I'd say CT is pretty essential to any orthopedic practice. HSHS needs to sit back and do better so folks choose them over SBLHS if they want to survive as a hospital system.

Like · Reply · 15h



↪ 5 Replies



**Cheryl Sharp Brian**

**Kevin Bornotreger** you are correct Kevin. We have 8 doctors and 6 of them are Surgeons, Acute Care and pain management, 2 physician assistants and 3 Nurse Practitioners. Not to mention Occupational and Physical therapy are just as cramped as the rest of us are..We are out of room. Not sure what the size of the building has to do with anything. They just built a large building on Rt 16 down the road from SBL and we didn't through a tantrum to try and stop them..

Like · Reply · 14h · Edited



2



**Heather McDaniel**

**Cheryl Sharp Brian** therapy is busting at the seams too

Like · Reply · 13h



3





**Sarah Bush Lincoln**  
 August 6 at 7:00 PM · 🌐

Sarah Bush Lincoln submitted a certificate of need application with the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board to build an expanded replacement building for the SBL Bonutti Clinic in Effingham.

"We're pleased to further invest in Effingham with this long-term commitment to provide excellent medical care," SBL President and CEO Jerry Esker said. "We are honored to receive such a warm welcome over the more than dozen years we have provided care here." In all, Sar... [See More](#)




26,434  
 People Reached

4,734  
 Engagements


Boost Post




 281

28 Comments 148 Shares

Comments from the SBL page, posted on 8/6/20



**Keith Hartman**  
 So exciting! Will really highlight Effingham when travelers get off interstate! Impressive.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Message](#) · 3w

 2



**Elizabeth Cutright**

Very Fortunate, Effingham, Illinois!

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Message](#) · 2w



**Andrea Weinstock Hartke**

Amazing!!! It will be fantastic!

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Message](#) · 3w



**Breana Worman**

Woohoo! That looks amazing! Can't wait!

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Message](#) · 3w



**Debbie Carruthers**

So Bonutti Clinic is getting a new building

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Message](#) · 3w



**Angie McCullough**

Only the best !

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Message](#) · 3w



**Jamie Lynn**

This is going to be amazing!

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Message](#) · 3w




**Kayla Ochs**

How exciting!


[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Message](#) · 3w






**Effingham Daily News**  
 August 25 at 9:27 AM · 🌐

HSHS St. Anthony's Memorial Hospital has filed an objection with the state board that is reviewing Sarah Bush Lincoln's plan for a new \$35 million Bonutti Clinic, saying the facility would duplicate services already performed at the hospital.



EFFINGHAMDAILYNEWS.COM

**St. Anthony's Memorial Hospital objects to scope of \$35M SBL Bonutti project**  
 HSHS St. Anthony's Memorial Hospital has filed an objection with the state board that is re...

👍👎🗨️ 42

53 Comments 24 Shares


👍 Like

💬 Comment

➦ Share


👤

## Comments from the EDN Facebook post on 8/25/20




Write a comment...

😊 GIF 🗨️




💎 Top Fan  
**Brenda Beckler Avery**  
 Dr. Lee from Bonutti Clinic has done a number of Emergency Surgeries on me the last several years. The staff are excellent and have treated me with great respect and patience. I wish for them the best!

👍❤️ 4



**Juliana Martin**  
**Brenda Beckler Avery**  
 Dr. Omiyi ... same! 🙌

👍❤️ 3



**Cheryl Sharp Brian**  
 Dr. Lee did my Rotator Cuff/Biceps Repair , Carpal Tunnel Release, Trigger Finger Release, thumb injections, Dr. Gray did my first knee replacement 20 years ago and Dr. Bonutti did the revision of it 2019, Physical therapy is awesome. They know exactly how the surgeons are wanting the rehab done, etc  
 I think I'm falling apart. Lol.

👍❤️ 2d

8



**Allison Meyer**

Well guess what, Sarah Bush owns that property and I'm pretty sure that means they can put as big a building as they want on it 🙄 my neighbors wouldn't get to complain if I decided to build a mansion and live in it by myself! Also, Bonutti clinic already offers all those services except CT scan, so they can't say that it's just now a concern.

Like · Reply · 1d



**Cheryl Sharp Brian**

But the choices have been here for 30 years. Services are the same just in a new building. They had their chance several times to by Bonutti Clinic. They screwed up and they know it. Now they gotta deal with it

Like · Reply · 2d



**Brad Horton**

I can't believe how crowded everything is. These places, and retail places once served much lighter populations. Remember when everything wasn't so crowded? And now they act like if we aren't packed in like livestock they can't make money. Lol!

Like · Reply · 2d



**Theresa Zerrusen**

I hope they build it, we need a better hospital here!

Like · Reply · 2d



↪ 1 Reply



**Jess Workman**

Probably afraid that the majority of the people would choose the services offered at SBL over HSHS. I mean, I would. 🙄

Like · Reply · 3d



Top Fan

**Valerie G Brown**

**Jess Workman** same!

Like · Reply · 3d



Top Fan

**Amber Dawn**

**Jess Workman** I have for the last 12 years and I'm excited that I can stay in Effingham for my kids now and I can labs done in Effingham anything else Sarah Bush brings in would be awesome IMO

Like · Reply · 2d



Top Fan

**Preston Gilpin**

**Jess Workman** st Anthony is a bandaid station

Like · Reply · 2d



Write a reply...



**Hali Griffith**

I would absolutely choose SBL of St. Anthony any friggin day!

Like · Reply · 2d



**Maleia Croy**

**Hali Griffith** I agree 🙌

Like · Reply · 2d





**Mary Flack**

Did I miss something?

I don't understand why creating choices is a bad thing?

Like · Reply · 2d



**Travis Cooper**

Why does HSHS care? From what I've heard they've cut staff and basically making themselves so they have to be sold anyway.

Like · Reply · 3d · Edited



Top Fan

**Preston Gilpin**

St. Anthonys is nothing but a band aid station anyway.

Like · Reply · 2d



**Judy Petard**

LoL a little competition never hurt anyone !!! Look how the city has played with Meijer!!!

Like · Reply · 2d



**Ken Wright**

Free Market enterprise!!

Like · Reply · 3d



**Ed Tacker**

St. Anthony better get over it .

Like · Reply · 2d

